

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 546
By Fitzhugh

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Tennessee native Tony Delk on being chosen Final Four Tournament Most Valuable Player and helping to lead the University of Kentucky men's basketball team to the national championship.

WHEREAS, led by Tennessee native Tony Delk, the University of Kentucky men's basketball team, widely regarded as one of the best teams ever to grace the hardwoods, won their sixth NCAA national championship, compiling a rare 34-2 record, an enviable winning percentage of .944, and also won the regular season Southeastern Conference title; and

WHEREAS, in the first game of the Final Four, against then number one ranked Massachusetts, the Wildcats held off repeated challenges to win impressively 81-74; and

WHEREAS, in that very memorable game between two hoop powerhouses, Tony scored twenty points, including a critical three pointer; and

WHEREAS, in the NCAA championship contest, the Big Blue Machine rolled over the scrappy Syracuse Orangemen 76-67, with "Long-range" Delk scoring 24 points and tying the title game record with seven 3-pointers; and

WHEREAS, this sensational senior 6-foot-1 sharpshooting guard, despite being on a team of superstars, was appropriately selected the Final Four Tournament Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, Tony Delk was born in Covington, Tennessee, on January 28, 1974, and was a popular athlete and student at Haywood High School, in Brownsville. Tony led the state of Tennessee in scoring for two straight years (1990-1991 and 1991-1992) and scored 1,312 points and averaged 38.6 points per game as a senior, leading his team to a 29-5 record. His accomplishments were specially recognized when he was named Parade Magazine High School All-American, McDonald's High School All-American and TSSAA Class AAA Mr. Basketball. His classmates chose him "Mr. Haywood High School"; and

WHEREAS, after being heavily recruited, he played in 30 games in his 1992-1993 freshman season at Kentucky, contributing almost ten minutes of quality playing time per game; and

WHEREAS, in his sophomore season, he led Kentucky in scoring, with 16.6 points per game. As a result of his exemplary efforts, he was chosen SEC All-Tournament, third-team Associated Press All-SEC, second-team Coaches All-SEC, Maui Invitational All-Tournament, and Wildcat Best Rebounder and Co-Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, during his junior year, Delk again led the team in scoring, averaging 16.7 points per game, started in all 33 games and led the squad in steals with 53. His outstanding year earned him *Basketball Weekly* third-team All-American, AP and Coaches first-team All-SEC, USBWA District 3-A Player of the Year and Kentucky Co-Most Valuable Player, Fewest Turnovers and Best Defensive Player recognition; and

WHEREAS, named Co-Captain for the second straight season, during his stellar senior season he became the fourth leading Wildcat scorer in history and scored more career points than any other Kentucky guard in history. Tony's lengthy list of honors included being named first-team *Basketball Weekly* and USBWA All-American, Associated Press and league coaches first-team All-SEC, *Knoxville News-Sentinel* and Associated Press SEC Player of the Year, Midwest Region Most Outstanding Player, and ECAC Holiday Festival Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, we are very proud that Tony Delk has accomplished so much; now,
therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That
we honor and congratulate Tony Delk on being chosen Final Four Most Valuable Player and
salute his great collegiate career.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared
for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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